AIR POUCH
PRIORITY

RESTRICTED
(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
745h.00/12-1652
XR 845h.00

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

NEA
MESSAGE CENTER

FROM : AMCONGEN, Lagos, Nigeria. 140
DEPT. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. DECEMBER 16, 1952
DATE

1952 DEC 30 PM 3 20

REF :

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2 For Dept. Use Only Rp	ACTION NEA	DEPT. INFO	REP EUR OLI IBS IFI L UNA IRS
	REC'D DEC 29	OTHER	AG COMM FRB TAR TR XMB

REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. REASON(S)
TS AUTH. ☐ MARKINGS ☐
ENDORSE EXISTING ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐
RELEASE DENIED ☐
FA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Files

SUBJECT: Fortnightly Newsletter - December 1 - 13, 1952

745 h.00 NEA
IBS UNA
IFI IRS
L

POLITICAL

Speculation in re NCNC Conference in Jos

The national council meeting of National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons is attracting wide attention. No reliable reports yet as to happenings in meetings, but much speculation. Fact that A. C. NWAPA, Min. of Commerce and Industries and other leaders Eastern Region NCNC group not at Jos meetings lends credence report that convention to go on record as demanding immediate revision present national constitution. Nwapa in London for Commonwealth commercial conference, many other Easterners "unable attend." Makeup of convention favors Namdi AZIKIWE carrying meeting for his attitude of immediate revision. If so, already-present split in NCNC will only be worsened. Group with most influence at convention is so-called "party" leadership as contrasted with "parliamentary" leadership. Zik has stated firmly that members will be disciplined if they do not follow party line and directives.

NCNC Youths to Boycott "British Ceremonial Parades and Functions"

NCNC Youth Association voted to boycott all British ceremonials and other similar functions during recent Lagos meeting. Also set up fund for legal defense any members prosecuted for doing so. Went on record stating would follow "militant" program for Nigerian independence.

NCNC's Balogun Refused Entry in Kenya

Kola BALOGUN, National Secretary of NCNC, came a cropper on plans go to Kenya to defend Jomo KENYATTA after H. O. DAVIES went on invitation from Kenya African Union. Balogun told in Nairobi that he could not have visitor's visa. Also detained in Khartoum on way home because of failure comply inoculation requirements. Balogun returned to Nigeria and went immediately to Jos for NCNC convention. Opposition press making great fun of incident.

RWRoss/LDJunior/hgc
REPORTER

RESTRICTED

ACTION COPY - DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/R files with an endorsement of action taken.

This Document Must Be Returned To

745H.00/12-1652

FILED

MAR 0 1953

RESTRICTED
(Classification)

Nwapa Goes to London Conference

Minister of Commerce and Industries, A. C. Nwapa, left December 3 for Commonwealth Economic Conference. He to serve as advisor to Secretary of State for Colonies. Opposition has bitter denunciation for his going--saying he should not have accepted anything less than full conference membership. His going had approval Nigerian Council of Ministers. General feeling that even advisor status welcome recognition Nigeria's importance to Commonwealth economy.

Okrika-Ogoloma Dispute Ends.

Alderton Commission heard 13 witnesses, including chiefs of both tribes. Fishing-rights dispute also complicated by inter-tribal political jealousies of a local nature.

Awolowo Junket Ends

Party returns enthused over their reception in the Sudan, India, Pakistan and Egypt. AWOLOWO believes Nigeria can profit by emulating India's Local Government system, voting methods (by symbol), food distribution and storage methods, agricultural industry. (Appealed to Nigerians to look more to the East than to the West for inspiration in things cultural and educational. Apparently arranged for a number of future scholarships in India and Egypt for Nigerian students.) Says Indian Government plans appoint High Commissioner to West Africa in January of 1953; Pakistan and Egypt supposed to follow suit, but later in year.

ECONOMIC

Second Big African-Owned Bank Liquidating

Considerable interest generated in announcement of liquidation of Nigerian Farmers' and Commercial Bank. Standard Bank of Nigeria also forced close recently. Farmers' bank directors state liquidation necessitated by unprecedented withdrawals for lack of confidence arising from Standard Bank's failure and Farmers' failure obtain license from Government. This bank first one turned down for license under terms new Banking Ordinance passes last session House of Representatives. Ordinance sets up newly stringent reserve, etc., requirements for first time in Nigeria and is expected to close several African-owned banks lacking orthodox financial foundations. Farmers' bank liquidation expected bring pressure on similar banks from local depositors.

Native Market Food Prices Inflated Since Government Pay Increases

Much public complaint in re inflation of prices on local food since April pay increases. Rice up 300 per cent, gari up 600 per cent, chickens up 300 per cent, palm oil up 200 per cent and yams up 50 per cent since April, 1952. Result predicted by Government prior to granting of wage increases.

Trading in North Unusually Slow

Trading companies disturbed by lack of spending by farmers now being paid high prices for current peanut crop in North. Crop usually brings sharp increase in spending for textiles and hard goods. Farmers evidently saving money, but no one knows why. Traders' stocks consequently topheavy.

MISCELLANEOUS

New Financial Secretary Announced

Mr. A. R. W. ROBERTSON who entered Colonial Service in 1929 as Assistant Treasurer, Gold Coast, appointed Deputy Treasurer, British Guiana in 1936 and Financial Secretary, Trinidad, in 1947, expected to arrive Nigeria April, 1953.

Erwin P. Keeler
American Consul General